(c) if so, to what extent the provisions are likely to help the Banks in implementing their schemes and also in making profits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government propose to permit the nationalised banks to access the capital market to raise fresh equity. This would need amendments to the Banking Companies (Aguisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980. The relevant amendments are receiving Government's attention. Government will, however, continue to retain majority share-holding in the equity of the nationalised banks.

(c) Assess to the capital market will enable the nationalised banks to meet the capital adequacy norms and also to expand their business which would otherwise be constrained.

Agricultural Debt Relief in Andhra Pradesh

1423. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh bank office in West Godavari District of Ahdhra Pradesh have received representations from various agricultural Cooperative credit societies regarding agricultural debt relief for the year 1987-88 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Andhra Bank is the lead bank in West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh ;

(c) what steps have been taken by Andhra Bank to properly implement debt relief programmes especially in Polavaram area of West Godavari District ;

(d) whether the Andhra Bank has raised any lacunae or procedural errors in giving effect to this announced debt relief in Polavaram area of West Godavari ;

(e) if not, the reasons for laxity in fulfilling the role of lead bank by Andhra Bank ; and

(f) the steps being taken by Andhra Bank to give effect to this relief ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (f) Andhra Bank, which is assigned with the Lead Bank responsibility in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh, has reported that it had received representation from a Primary Agricultural Co-operative Society in Polavaram Mandal/Block on non-extension of Debt Relief to the members of their Society. The bank has reported that it had constituted special teams at respective blocks in the District to identify the eligible borrows and receive claim from participating banks in the area to determine their eligibility, as per guidelines framed by Reserve Bank of India/Government. There were no procedural errors or any other lacuna noticed during the course of providing debt relief to all the eligible borrowers in the West Godavari District particularly in Polavaram Area. The Bank has advised all the participating bank branches including the State Co-operative Bank Branches to provide the Debt Relief to all the eligible borrowers as determined by the Block Level Bankers' Committee. As per the guidelines, the eligible borrower must have suffered at least two bad crop years (either consecutively or alternatively) and the said borrower should not be a wilful defaulter to the Bank. District Administration provides Annewari declarations consecutively/alternatively for two years to denote the bad crop as envisaged in the guidelines.

Representations by Residents of I.D.B.I. Quarters

1424. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees/residents quarters of Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) Ghatkopar,

Bombay have been making repeated representations to the Bank about inadequate water supply ot their flats;

(b) whether it is a fact that the flats of the other buildings surrounding the IDBI quarters are getting 24 hours water supply;

(c) if so, the reasons due to which IDBI management has not taken adequate steps to ensure 24 hours water supply to all their flats; and

(d) what steps IDBI propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that they are not aware about the position of water supply in the neighbouring buildings at Ghatkopar Quarters. However, water supply to the Quarters by Bombay Municipal Corporation (BMC) is sufficient to meet needs of all residents.

(c) The IDBI Quarters are connected to BMC water supply wherever such supply is available. The availability of water depends on the water supplied by BMC.

(d) IDBI has reported that it had provided storage drums to all the occupants in order to mitigate the need of water when the supply is not available through tap. IDBI also obtained an additional 1.5" diameter water connection after which the water supply position has improved considerably.

Withdrawal of Excise Subsidy for Deep-Sea Fishing

1425. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether his Ministry had withdrawn Central excise subsidy of 50 per cent which was extended to the deep-sea fishing industry;

(b) the steps taken to enable the industry which is 100 per cent export oriented to cope with dis-proportionately high oil prices as compared to international prices; and

(c) whether Government propose to reinstate the erstwhile scheme, which is beneficial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (b) Under the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, there is no concept of central excise subsidy. However, the Ministry of Commerce is administering a scheme aimed at reimbursing a part of the cost of high speed diesel oil consumed by deep see fishing vessels so as to make the effective price comparable to the international price.

Setting up of National Rural Bank

1426. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the progress made so far from the setting up of a National Rural Bank of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): Government initiated a process of consultation for restructuring of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). A number of alternative models, including the proposal for establishment of a National Rural Bank of India (NRBI), have been considered in consultation with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)/ Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Members of Parliament and RRB employees' Association etc. have also expressed their views. Finance Minister held a meeting on 7-10-93 in New Delhi with Members of Parliament from different political parties to solicit their opinion. The suggestions made by them are under active examination by Government.